

A Family Journal---Devoted to Foreign and Domestic News, Politics, Literature, Agriculture, Education, Morality, Science and Art. Amusement, Advertising, &c. &c.

Advertisements \$1.00 per square for 3 weeks;
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for each cont.

GETTYSBURG, PA., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1861.

Professional Cards.

particularly the people of Adams county, is
to buy the best and cheapest Fall and
Winter Clothing. We unhesitatingly say, at
HARRISON'S—that's the spot—N. E. Corner of
Diamond, in the old County Building.
Oct. 17.

By the ancient law of Hungary, a convicted of bigamy was condemned to die with both wives in the same house; the crime was, in consequence, extremely

while approached her husband, who the
helping a "lady of the town" into a like
for a ride, and knocked him down
a club. She also tapped her hus-
charmer on the head with the same son,
son, after which she marched her tru-
house off home. juic

ashful portion of young men, who, in the
Barkus, are "willing," sell.
"Old gentleman, affectionately—"My
why do you chew that filthy tobacco?"
"Precocious youth, stiffly—"To get the
out of it, old codger."

A story is told of a tavern keeper by the name of A. S. Camp. The painter, in painting his sign, left out the points, and read: Tavern kept by A S CAMP.

—may never cease; that community
crisis may accompany community of
and that along the iron pathway
now so directly and intimately con-
the two cities you shall send to us
products of your labor and skill and

cognizes the duty of patriots and citizens. They refuse to fill any, or whether to regular customers or others they suspect the arms are to go or indirectly into the arming of the use of the rebels. They have all cases returned drafts sent in ad-

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THE ADAMS SENTINEL
GETTYSBURG:
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6, 1861.

Hon. E. McPherson made a short visit home, returning yesterday to his post at Washington. He is looking very well, and appears to be in good hope of an adjustment of affairs, before it reaches the dreaded crisis. We were pleased to find that he is conservative in his feelings, and is echoing the hopes and wishes of his constituents.

The Rev. Dr. Schaff, of Mercersburg, will deliver a Lecture in the German Reformed Church, on the evening of the 22d of February.

Railroad Accident.

The train of cars bound from Hanover to Gettysburg, on Thursday evening, met with a frightful accident at McCurdy & Crass's limestone quarries, about two miles this side of the former place. The switch leading into the quarries had been left open, which threw the train off the track, the locomotive—the "Hanover"—going down an embankment of four or five feet, and turning over on its side, thus causing considerable injury to the machine. The passenger and other cars were not damaged, though off the track. The Engineer, Mr. Elliott, and the Fireman, Mr. Kelly, made a narrow escape with their lives, when the frightful character of the accident is considered. They stood manfully by their posts—the former escaping with a badly bruised foot and the latter with a severe wrenching. Another locomotive was had as soon as possible from Hanover, but the train did not reach this until midnight. Mr. Elliott may not be able to resume his post for several weeks.—*Compiler.*

Valentines, Comic and Sentimental.

Our neighbor Minnie, next door to the Post-office, has just received a splendid supply of beautiful Valentines, from the most sentimental to the most comic, which are worth while to take a peep at. Every one should lay in some preparatory to St. Valentine's Day, which will be on the 14th.—He has also just received a fresh supply of choice Confectionery, of the finest quality, and as to finely flavored Cigars, he cannot be excelled. Give him a call.

Our friends, A. Scott & Son, in Chambersburg street, have just placed on our table some of Zinn's improved Coffee Extract, which is manufactured by J. H. Zinn, at Poplar Grove, near Middletown, in this county. We have been in the use of it in our family, and can most cheerfully recommend it—so far as our taste goes—both for pleasant flavor and economy. The Messrs. Scott have it for sale; and we recommend a trial of it.

At a sale of stocks belonging to the estate of John Swope, deceased, of Hanover, a few days ago, five shares of stock in the Bank of Gettysburg, were sold at \$63 50 per share—par value \$50. The excellent credit of our Institution. Edgar Slagle was the purchaser.

There was a wonderful excitement at Hanover a few days ago, about a box of muskets which had been delivered at Jefferson station, on the line of railroad, and all sorts of stories were afloat about another insurrection and Abolition raid upon Maryland. The excitement got to such a pitch, that the box was opened, and it was discovered that the horrible death dealing muskets were only wooden guns for Young America! Ha! ha!

Snakes, like men, are sometimes deceived by the "signs of the times." There was a very mild and pleasant day last month (the 19th), and a large black snake, foolishly imagining that spring had arrived, came out of his winter quarters on the farm of Mr. Solomon Swartz, of Conowingo township, but he soon found his mistake, as a son of Mr. Swartz quickly despatched him. He was upwards of five feet in length, and an ugly customer.

"The Hanover Citizen" is the title of a new paper just established in our neighboring town of Hanover, by F. M. BAUMANN, who has been for some time editor of the "Spectator." The paper presents a very neat appearance, having all new material, and presume will be edited with ability. We are sorry to observe, however, that it is committed to modern Democracy. He will also publish a German paper under the same title. Thus there will be three English and two German papers in Hanover—a little ahead of Gettysburg.

Our latest news from Pensacola indicate that all probability of hostilities there has passed away, and that the "allied army" of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi troops will be withdrawn, and that Fort Pickens will not be attacked at present. They are beginning to take the "second, sober thought."

In the U. S. Senate, on Monday, Messrs. Seward and Benjamin, the Louisiana Senators, announced the secession of their State, & withdrew from the Senate. Mr. Benjamin delivered an affecting farewell address.

The drawing of premiums of the Cosmopolitan Art Association has been postponed until the 18th of April next. Mr. H. G. Geyer, at the Post Office, will receive subscriptions up to that time.

Speech of Mr. McPherson.

He commences in the following beautiful manner:

MR. SPEAKER: Three months ago all eyes were turned to behold, and all hearts were beating with the free nation rising out of the Italian sea. Her release from long-yorn bondage, coincident with the emancipation of Russia's serfs; the unbroken consecration of the French Emperor; the alternating tendencies of the continental Powers; and the ever-widening sweep of England's civilization, marked the period as an era in the progress of humanity. Over its pleasing realizations, what future was not joyous? Of its magnificent promises, who was not gladly hopeful? To us of America, the picture was the brighter because, with pardonable pride, we saw ourselves reflected in it; our principles recognized, though not wholly adopted; and our example and institutions measurably followed and reproduced. "The thrice of that classic and suffering people, as in agony and blood they dissolved the despot, and claimed and won their freedom, awakened our warmest sympathies; and our brother-fearing strengthened as we saw in their heroic leader, rare virtues, which place him near the side of Washington."

Externally, all was well. Within ourselves, how much to call forth thankfulness! The nation was never richer, stronger, or more prosperous. A bountiful crop had filled our granaries, relieved indebtedness, and driven away the shadow of former evil. Trade was active. Our markets land and water ways were crowded. Our population were busy. Wealth flowed in from Europe as it had rarely done before, and labor, in every occupation, was adequately paid. Under such circumstances, on the 5th day of November last, nearly five million American voters, in the exercise of the most precious right of citizenship, cast their ballots for the Chief Executive of the nation.

A night passes, and another day. The flashing wires announce the choice, and good citizens resume their duties. With the next rising sun, come mutterings and threatnings—dissonant and unnatural. Gradually they swell higher and higher, until they arrest and absorb attention as they shrilly penetrate the remotest corners of the land. Crossing the Atlantic, and reaching alike ancient friends and ancient enemies, there comes back a united and beseeching remonstrance against so horrible a purpose, so monstrous a crime, as the disruption of this Government. Two weeks pass around, and on all sides business is paralyzed, crops remain unharvested, banks suspend, exchange is practically stopped, securities, even those of the Government, reach nominal prices, and the whole fabric of trade totters—every citizen being more or less a loser. Patriots within the country combine to check the maddening torrent of feeling; but it rolls on. One, two, three, four, five, States have already yielded to the storm, and others stand trembling before it. It threatens to engulf a whole section of the Republic. Such a phenomenon, so threatening and wide-reaching, should concentrate all thought upon itself.

It has been said, we are in the midst of a revolution. It is more accurate to say, that we are in the presence of a vast conspiracy, which has at length assumed the proportions of revolution. I propose to examine and try to understand it.

Whence comes it? By what means?—Whither does it tend? Three pregnant questions.

Under this head, Mr. McPherson remarks that the blows come from conspirators, who admit that long ago they laid the plan, that carefully they have prepared the means, and that such has been their life-labor. This he exemplified by documents and declarations of various kinds, showing that the dissolution of the Union has for many years been their desire and object; that for this great end they have publicly and privately used every means to prepare their people for the event, combining the most powerful influences, and appropriating also the apt agency of a secret, and probably oath-bound organization, the "Knights of the Golden Circle," which has spread its ramifications in all parts of the South, in the Departments at Washington, and in the Halls of Congress.

They made their first attempt in 1832, but they met the iron will and sterling patriotism of Andrew Jackson, whose Roman virtue no bribes could sway or threats subdue—who, while he lived, checked and thwarted them; and when he was dying, bequeathed his sword to his nephew, with the injunction to defend the Union as well from "domestic traitors," as foreign enemies. "From 1840 to 1851 they labored assiduously to corrupt the popular heart, using ardently the agitation consequent upon the Texas annexation; but the Southern heart had not yet been fired, and the Cotton States would not be precipitated into revolution. They have labored relentlessly for the last ten years, gathering energy from defeat—and have at last taken the bold step of asserting and maintaining the "right of secession," a doctrine which has ever been disesteemed by the Fathers of the Republic, and by the ablest modern Statesmen; and this day this conspiracy stands before the American people the most hideous development in their history of that of any other nation.

Their plea is that their rights have been infringed in the Union—that they are taxed for the benefit of the North, by a Protective Tariff; that the Laws of the General Government fail to make effective and valuable the fugitive clause of the Constitution; that fifteen States have enacted laws which either nullify the Laws of Congress or prevent their execution; that Mr. Lincoln has been chosen President; that certain States have elevated to citizenship certain persons who, by the supreme law of the land, are incapable of becoming citizens; and that after the 1st of March next, the equal rights of the States will be lost, and the slaveholding States will no longer have the power of self preservation. "To all these," remarks Mr. McPherson, it is easily answered—

of truth, there is no reason to doubt that the laws will be revised, and placed in proper shape; but if this were not so, there is a remedy for the case in the Union, and under the Constitution. That the election of an adverse President has always hitherto been peacefully acquiesced in by those now victorious; that the mere election is not an offence; that the opinions of the President elect are grossly misrepresented and perverted in the State papers before named; that if disposed, he could not do what is wrongfully attributed to him; and that, as the next Congress would be constituted, the President would be powerless to control legislation. That the question of citizenship is one of constitutional law, which tribunals have been specially erected to decide. And that the last complaint is a prediction—not a fact—a prediction not founded on a true statement of past or present occurrences, and with no probability or possibility of realization.

This completes the "dreary catalogue," as made by the champions of disunion. How pitiful the list! but it was the best possible. Not one has the ring of reality; not one will bear the test of fact.

Mr. McPherson closes his able speech as follows:

THE INEVITABLE FAILURE OF DISUNION.

As, Mr. Speaker, I have thought of the possible destruction of this Union, and forecasted the manifold and terrible afflictions which must ensue, I have been overwhelmed with dismay at the depth and darkness of the abyss toward whose brink we have been tending. It is unfathomable and unfathomable. By none of us or ours be the attempted measurement ever made! But will this calamity overtake us? I hope—yes, I believe it will not.

Such self-destruction is in the highest degree unnatural and criminal. It is not only violative of every instinct, but destructive of every valuable interest, immediate and prospective. Not only would dissolution result in several subdivisions, with endless complications, such a fruitful source of irritation; not only would it subject the weaker to the stronger, and open us to the demoralizing diplomacy of the contending factions, families, and houses of Europe, thus committing a crime against republicanism; but it would destroy American unity, which is one of the great facts of history; thus committing a crime against humanity. All races feel this yearning for union; and many have struggled, and for years vainly sought it. To us it came early and without difficulty, for we encountered few or no disturbing causes; and hence we value it too lightly. What the home-feeling is to the individual, national unity is to a people. The former unlocks the soul, leads him in paths of perennial beauty, fills him with noble emotions, and fits him for higher life. The latter, by a mysterious but powerful attraction, clasping in brotherhood those who are one in language and language, consolidates their energies, intensifies their powers, multiplies their capacities, and drives them, with ever-renewing vigor, to the fulfillment of their mission. Tyrants cannot crush this. Even Napoleon, in the pride of his power and the flush of brilliant victory—his heel on the neck of nationalities whose empires he had mastered—could not reconstruct the map of Europe. Ages cannot dim it; for at this moment the world thrills with the spectacle of the long-lost Italian nation reasserting its unity, and, after weary and fearful oppression, gathering up its life-eloquence for consolidation into a liberal and powerful government.

How differently we appear! The events transpiring on our soil proclaim a revolution threatened without just or adequate cause, not so much by open as secret means; not in a spirit of thoughtfulness, but madness; not in deliberation, but rashness; not in manliness, but cowardice; its purpose to disunite men of one race long united under the freest and best institutions, enjoying and having enjoyed unequalled civil, political, social, family, and personal blessings. Can such a movement, thus initiated, carried on, and aimed, be successful? Surely not. It contains within itself the causes of inevitable failure. It ought to fail. It will fail. Mankind cannot afford its success. The American people will not allow it. God (I speak it with reverence) will not permit the sacrilegious overthrow. Every instinct revolts at it. Every principle rebels against it. Every interest cries aloud in earnest protest—States may reel and fall; communities may forget their duties; majorities may be misled; citizens may neglect their trust; loyalty, terrorism, and treason, may rule the hour; but the storm will pass, the calm come, and peace be again within our borders. It may not be very soon. The virus is not thus easily expelled from the body-politic. Blows are not so soon forgotten. Gashes do not at once heal up; and when they do, scars are left. But this much is certain: THIS UNION WILL NOT BE DESTROYED. You ask, what will save it? I answer: that ever-living, over-thinking mass—THE PEOPLE—will save it. But how? Through the agencies within their reach—their popular assemblies, and the myriad forms of their organized life; their local Legislatures, State Conventions, congressional representation and executive head, upon each devolving a share of the labor and responsibility. It may not be done in a day; and gentlemen should not demand such precipitancy. Years were required for the original construction, and time is now needed to dissipate passion, restore truth, and induce rational views of duty. Complaints must be examined, opinions compared, and a policy determined. Whatever can fairly be asked of me, I am ready to do, as my votes will show.

Meanwhile, whatever be the precipitate or even conduct of complaining States, the Government should preserve its position—giving up no right, escaping from no duty, and conceding no release from allegiance to itself. Combining the magnanimity of the powerful with the tenderness of the loving, while asserting and maintaining its authority, it should exhaust all peaceful agencies to restore the friends to soundness of mind and solicitude of judgment. But if conciliation should not awaken dormant patriotism, no kindness produce consideration; if, in dire infatuation, all honorable adjustment be spurned, all peaceful accommodation be refused, then will have arrived the time to "test the strength of the Government." Sir, I both dread and repulse collision; but if, to maintain this Government against vile conspiracy, and save ourselves from anarchy and the republican system from contempt; if, to protect our property from spoliation and our flag

from dishonor; if, to keep from the page of history the scornful sentence, "free institutions are a failure," collision must come, let it come, and upon the aggressors rest the responsibility. It has been remarked by a profound thinker, with as much force as freshness, "Blood is not the worst thing in history." I add, neither is it the weakest. I have always hoped that, at least in this country, we had advanced beyond the necessity for an appeal to force. I sincerely hope we have. I yet cherish the belief that we have. But if we have not, we owe to those whose wickedness, in misleading, deceiving, and "firing" the people, makes such a probability within ordinary range.

But during every danger, bearing every burden, submitting to every sacrifice, and meeting every consequence, the AMERICAN PEOPLE will preserve this Government, because they love its liberal institutions which, in their completeness, vigor, efficiency, and power, are fitting monuments of the towering men who made them; because every dear association, every tie of interest, every present and prospective good, is involved in the maintenance of the Union; because justly measuring their history, which has been one of great achievement, and their future, which abounds with brilliant promise, they know that union has made our pathway radiantly bright, and is the bow of promise which flashes the coming years; because they appreciate the importance to mankind of the many qualities of the Anglo-Saxon race, which requires a home and a becoming theatre of action, and whose chiefest sat is this fertile, expansive, and central empire; and because, their souls reverently mindful of the centuries of toil, privation, and suffering, of which modern civilization is the product, they would esteem it impious to throw away their precious privileges, whose fruits are peace, prosperity, and happiness. Having thus determined, and from so exalted motives, the self-reliant American people will address themselves—yes, are now addressing themselves—to this patriotic and Christian act; and they will patiently perform the duty, whether it leads them through sunshine or storm, the plenty of peace or the perils of war; never ceasing from their labor until, their nation saved, mankind assured an asylum, and liberty a country, their work shall be fully, honorably, nobly done. Sir, in this faith I have lived; in it I wish to die.

Secretary Holt and Governor Ellis.

Governor Ellis, of North Carolina, in a letter to the President, informing him of the surrender of the United States forts in that State, says:

"Your Excellency will pardon me for asking whether the United States forts will be garrisoned with United States troops during your Administration?"

To this letter Secretary Holt responded as follows:

"In reply to your inquiry, whether it is the purpose of the President to garrison the forts of North Carolina during his Administration, I am directed to say that they, in common with the other forts, arsenals, and public property of the United States, are in the charge of the President, and that if assailed, no matter from what quarter or under what pretext, it is his duty to protect them by all the means which the law has placed at his disposal. It is not his purpose to garrison the forts to which you refer at present, because he considers them entirely safe, as heretofore, under the shelter of the law-abiding sentiment for which the people of North Carolina have ever been distinguished. Should they, however, be attacked, or menaced with danger of being seized and taken from the possession of the United States, he could not escape from his constitutional obligation to defend and preserve them. The satisfactory and patriotic assurances given by your Excellency justify him, however, in entertaining the confident expectation that no such contingency will arise."

South Carolina's Ultimatum.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The Senators of seceding States this week have all united in advising Colonel Hayne not to present the ultimatum of South Carolina until the southern confederacy is formed.

Col. Hayne has replied that if he could be assured that no reinforcements would be sent South, he would defer his letter till he could have a consultation with his Governor.

A letter from Col. Hayne was sent to the President, and the Secretary of War states in reply, that without plunging the President not to send reinforcements, he would say that none would be sent unless Major Anderson demanded them.

This state of the case Colonel Hayne communicated to the Legislature of South Carolina, when the resolutions were passed, offering to pay for the forts, and, if refused, demanding a surrender.

These resolutions have been laid before the President by Col. Hayne, who awaits a reply. The President, as is generally supposed, will refuse to dispose of the forts, and so inform Col. Hayne. In fact the latter anticipates this. When he receives the answer he will return to South Carolina. This is the truthful condition of these negotiations, and thus they stand at present. Until Col. Hayne communicates the President's action to South Carolina no attack will be made on Fort Sumter.

The U. S. Revenue Cutter McClelland.

Capt. Breshwood, of the United States cutter McClelland, at New Orleans, having refused to obey the orders of the government, Mr. Dix, Secretary of the Treasury, last week sent the following dispatch to W. H. Jones, in that city:

"Tell Lieut. Caldwell to arrest Capt. Breshwood, assume command of the cutter, (the McClelland), and obey the order I gave through you. If Capt. Breshwood, after arrest, undertakes to interfere with the command of the cutter, tell Lieut. Caldwell to consider him as a mutineer, and treat him accordingly. If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot."

The steamer Northern Light arrived at New York, on Saturday, with over a million and a half in specie from California. She brings no news of interest. Thirty prisoners attempted to escape from the State Prison at San Francisco on the 15th of January. Three were killed, thirteen wounded, and with the exception of one, all were captured. Some of the guard were slightly wounded.

Peace Convention.

Monday last was the day of meeting at Washington, of Commissioners from different States, to endeavor to arrange the unhappy difficulties that are now affecting the Union. It is now known that fifteen States will be represented there, viz: Virginia, North Carolina, Missouri, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Delaware, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois and Indiana. As a general matter, the most eminent and conservative men of the different States have been selected as Commissioners; and we do hope their deliberations will be harmonious, and some plan of settlement adopted, which will meet with approbation.

Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont have since appointed Commissioners—making 18 States.

The National Peace Convention assembled on Monday. Commissioners from 11 States were present: 18 will be represented, but all had not yet reached the Capital. The proceedings on Monday were merely preliminary, but were conducted with closed doors, as probably will be all their sessions. Ex-President Tyler will be the President of the Convention.

The Republican caucus in the Legislature of New York, on Saturday evening, nominated Ira Davis for U. S. Senator, in the room of Mr. Seward, on the tenth ballot. Horace Greeley was his principal opponent. We are glad of this—for we want prudent, conservative men just now, not those who dash on, regardless of consequences. We want men like Mr. Seward, who wish to do all now to save our glorious Union, and then settle matters carefully and deliberately, and save all that is worth saving. These are the men the country needs now, not the dashing, headlong fury of Southern or Northern fire-eaters. There is a conservative feeling among the masses of the people in this part of the country, and we think in all the Border States, which will lead to concessions and harmonious action, and keep us united—for really there is very little to yield on either side, the difference being but little more than an abstraction, when we come to analyze the matter carefully. We have great confidence in the Peace Convention which assembled at Washington on Monday; their agreement upon a basis of settlement of the difficulties will have a powerful effect upon public sentiment, which is now in such an unsettled state. We believe that nine out of ten of the citizens of Adams county, and we think of Pennsylvania, are for a fair and honorable compromise, and will cheerfully give in their adhesion to what may be done at Washington, for we cannot think for a moment that any vital principle will be sacrificed. We believe it is the duty of every good citizen to lend his influence to hold together our glorious Union; and we would regret to see any press or individual aiding to make the breach wider. There are too many glorious reminiscences clustering around this Union to suffer it to be discovered without a struggle.

The debate in the United States Senate, on Thursday last, was important. Mr. Seward, in presenting the memorial of thirty-eight thousand citizens of New York in favor of the Border State Compromise, accompanied it with remarks that will meet the approval of every man who does not desire to press the sectional troubles of the country to the point of national disintegration and ruin. He declared that he held himself open to propositions of compromise, that he believed the Union would be preserved, and that "ALL PERILS OR DANGERS WOULD BE SWIFT AWAY." The question of freedom or slavery in the Territories he said had been reduced to a very narrow compass by the admission of Kansas, California and Oregon, and as in that part of the Territory which remained, over which a slave code extended, but twenty-four slaves had been introduced, he did not fear slave aggression! which had accomplished only that much. He was willing to submit the question to a Convention to be called according to the terms of the Constitution, and "the world would see how thirty-four States would peacefully adjust this difficulty." Senator Mason endeavored to dissipate the force of the many and vivid declarations of Mr. Seward, but simply showed that he belongs to those extremists who do not wish, and have determined to prevent if they can, all possibility of an adjustment. Mr. Seward replied to him with all the force of truth, that he had "made out of a speech pacific and fraternal, a declaration of war." The debate was continued up to the adjournment of the Senate, Mr. Douglas taking an effective part.

In the House, on the same day, Mr. Adams, of Massachusetts, Republican, made a speech almost as marked as that of Mr. Seward in the Senate for its conciliatory and conservative character.

The Union feeling in Kentucky strengthens day by day, and is having its effect upon the Legislature in session at Frankfort. On Friday the Senate, by a very decisive vote, passed a resolution declaring it inexpedient at this time to take any action towards calling a State convention. The Senate has also made an appeal to the South to stop the revolution, and to Congress to call a National Convention, and proposes adjourning over to the 24th of April to await a response to these appeals. The example of Kentucky is one that Maryland may follow, certainly without dishonor, and we think wisely.

Outrage and Robbery.

The Mechanicstown (Md.) Visitor gives an account of a bold robbery committed in that place on Sunday evening week. The house of Mr. JOHN ROUZER was entered by an unknown individual, through a back window, and about \$14 taken from a bureau drawer in a room occupied by Miss A. ROUZER, a sister of Mr. JAMES ROUZER, of this place. Miss R. entered from an adjoining room at the time, when she was grasped by the throat by the scoundrel, and struck on the head. He next tore the apron from her body, and drew it tightly around her neck, and left her in that condition. The thief then made his escape and has not been heard of since. Miss R. has been lying in a critical condition ever since. This is the fourth time the same house has been robbed during the winter.

In the House, at Harrisburg, on the 24th ult., Mr. MYERS presented a petition from citizens of Adams county, for the repeal of all laws conflicting with the Compromise Acts of Congress, passed in 1850, and laws of this State conflicting with the laws of other States. Also, petitions from citizens of this county for the repeal of the act passed on the 14th day of April, 1850, for the protection of game, so far as the same relates to the county of Adams.

The receipts from customs at New York, for January, are less by just about one-half, than for the same month last year. The aggregate of difference in receipts of customs at New York for three months back, as compared with receipts for a corresponding period a year ago, is \$83,886,000.

Bold Robbery.

The U. S. Mint and Custom-house at New Orleans were taken possession of by the State authorities of Louisiana on Thursday last, and on Friday the new officials took the oath of office under the ordinance. It is believed at the Department at Washington, that in these seizures a million of the money of the Government has fallen into the hands of the State. The Treasury Department had sent on a draft for \$390,000, on the Superintendent of the Mint, and U. S. Treasurer there; but the answer by Mr. Giroi was that "the money in his custody was no longer the property of the United States, but the Republic of Louisiana." If this is not the boldest kind of wholesale robbery, we know not what it is. Matters have indeed reached a lamentable crisis.

More Robbery.

Governor Brown, of Georgia, has sent written instructions to the Collector of the Port of Savannah, to retain all moneys now in his possession and received from customs, and make no payment on account of the Federal Government. Is this not outrageous? However, it is in character with the whole proceedings of these desperadoes.

Another Outrage.

Lieut. Jewett, of the Navy, has just arrived at Washington, from Pensacola. He states that he was arrested by the authorities of Florida, who held him in custody until he gave his parole of honor that he would never take up arms against the State of Florida. The facts in the case have been communicated to the Navy Department. This is really a high-handed outrage by a petty State like Florida! Lieut. Jewett never should have given such a pledge—for he ought to have known that the stars and stripes of the Union would have soon been brought to the rescue.

On Monday week, Mr. STEVENS, of Pa., made a speech in the House of Representatives, in which he took ground against any concession to or compromise with those States which had seceded—believing that they would have no effect whatever. He contended against the right of secession. He said, "Let us be patient, faithful to all constitutional engagements, and await the time of the Disposer of events. Let us not destroy this grand fabric of freedom, which, when once dissolved, will never be rebuilt. Let there be no blood shed until the last moment; but let no cowardly counsels unnerve the people; and then, at last, if needs be, let every one be ready to gird on his armor, and do his duty."

It appears that the request of Virginia, that the different States appoint Commissioners for the purpose of meeting other Commissioners of that State, in the city of Washington, on the fourth day of February, was laid before the Massachusetts delegation, and a letter was prepared and signed by most of the members of the House, addressed to the Governor, asking him to recommend to the Legislature the appointment of certain eminent citizens from Massachusetts, to take part in this great consultation.

It is stated and believed that Mr. Senator Sumner, hearing of this paper, took strong ground against it and protested to Hon. Charles Francis Adams against his having signed the document in question. The latter, in a prompt and somewhat indignant manner, refused to be controlled by the distinguished Senator, and stated that he was for his country and his whole country, and would do everything to maintain the Government and settle existing difficulties.

It is due to Mr. Adams to say that the example of his Revolutionary father, and of the patriotic Ex-President, John Quincy Adams, who, amid all his eccentricities, was, nevertheless, a warm and untiring friend of the Union, is ardently cherished by him. The son of such fathers cannot do wrong in a moment of gloom like the present.

Cheering News from Virginia.

The returns from the election held in Virginia on Monday for delegates to the State Sovereign Convention, are of an encouraging aspect. In the cities of Richmond, Petersburg, Alexandria and Wheeling, the Unionists have triumphed, while on the extreme west of the State, along the Ohio river, the friends of the Union have swept everything. It is a large State, however, and it is yet not safe to calculate too strongly.

Advices from Vera Cruz state that, Secretary Toney's orders to the home squadron were received by the commander of the squadron, on the 19th ult., and he immediately proceeded to execute the order sent, which was to send to Florida the steam frigate Powhatan, the Sabine, and the sailing corvette St. Louis. On examination, however, it was discovered that all the vessels of the fleet were so short of provisions as to render it inadvisable to send any of the vessels on special service before the stores were replenished, and it was believed that the vessels designated would first proceed to Havana for that purpose. The order from the Navy Department had created the greatest excitement in the squadron, and some disaffection existed among the officers of the Powhatan, of whom the First and Third Lieutenants, and the Parser, immediately resigned. Their resignations were only conditionally accepted, and they were refused permission to leave the vessel.

Notice.

LETTERS of Administration on the Estate of JACOB GARDNER, Sen. late of this township, Adams county, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, residing in the same township, they hereby give notice to all persons indebted to said Estate to call, and settle the same, and those who have claims, are desired to present the same, properly authenticated, for settlement.

JOHN GARDNER,
ARNOLD GARDNER,
Admrs.

The following correspondence between the Hon. John D. Ashmore, the Representative from the Fifth Congressional District of South Carolina, and the Acting Postmaster General, will convey to our readers information important at this time to the Southern States claiming to have withdrawn from the Union:

ANDERSON, (S. C.) Jan. 24, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR: I have in my possession some 1,000 to 1,200 volumes of "public documents," being my proportion of the same as a member of the Thirty-sixth Congress. They were forwarded to me in mail sacks and are now lying in my library. Since the date of the ordinance of secession (December 20th, 1860) of South Carolina I have not used the franking privilege, nor will I attempt to do so without the special permission of the Department. To pay the postage on these books, &c. would cost me a large sum and one that I am not prepared to expend. The books are of no use to me, but might be to my constituents, for whom they were intended, if distributed among them. Have I the right to frank and distribute them under existing relations? If so, please inform me. Having said that I have not used the franking privilege since the 20th of December, I need hardly add that I shall not do so, even on a "public document," unless you authorize it. I am, with great respect, truly and sincerely, yours,
J. D. ASHMORE.

Hon. HORATIO KING,
Acting Postmaster General.

Post Office Department.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 21st inst. asking if you have the right, "under existing relations," to frank and distribute certain public documents, I have the honor to state that the theory of the Administration is, that the relations of South Carolina to the General Government have been in nothing changed by her recent act of secession; and, this being so, you are of course entitled to the franking privilege until the first Monday in December next. If, however, as I learn is the case, you sincerely and decidedly entertain the conviction that by that act South Carolina ceased to be a member of the Confederacy and is now a foreign State, it will be for you to determine how far you can conscientiously exercise a privilege the exercise of which assumes that your own conviction is erroneous, and plainly declares that South Carolina is still in the Union and that you are still a member of the Congress of the United States. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
HORATIO KING,
Acting Postmaster General.

Hon. JOHN D. ASHMORE,
Anderson, South Carolina.

Monday marked the commencement of an important epoch in the history of our national troubles. Two Conventions assembled, one at Washington and the other at Montgomery, Alabama. The first originated under the peace resolutions of the Virginia Legislature, and its labors will be devoted to bringing together again, if possible, all the States of a shattered Republic, and closing up the wounds that have been inflicted upon our Nationality. The second will labor to create a new Confederacy, and turning its back on the memories and glories of the old Union, go in pursuit of an ignis fatuus that may lead, who shall say where. Upon the proceedings of these two bodies there may depend much that will affect hereafter, for good or evil, the destinies of our country and its people. The election of delegates to the Virginia State Convention, which also took place on Monday, will affect to a very important degree the decision of Maryland and the other Border States upon the prevailing issues of the day.

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The Farmers' and Mechanics' SAVINGS INSTITUTION OF ADAMS CO. pays interest at the rate of 2, 3, 4, and 5 percent, for money on deposit.

